

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 NEA-10 EB-08 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 DEAE-00 JUSE-00 CTME-00
SNM-05 OES-07 COME-00 /153 W
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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SGEN, SHUM, SNAR

SUBJECT: 64TH ECOSOC/SOCIAL COMMITTEE--OPENING OF BUSINESS

1. THE SOCIAL (SECOND) COMMITTEE BEGAN WORK UNDER ITS PREVIOUSLY ELECTED CHAIRMAN (EHSASSI, IRAN) WITH ELECTION OF TWO VICE CHAIRMEN, ARGENTINA AND NEW ZEALAND AND ADOPTION OF THE ORDER OF WORK AS SUGGESTED IN DOCUMENT E/1978/L.20.

2. THE COMMITTEE BEGAN WORK ON THE FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA, NGOS AND COMMENCED THE DEBATE ON THE REPORT OF THE NGO COMMITTEE. THE DELEGATE OF ARGENTINA MADE A LENGTHY CRITIQUE OF THE WAY IN WHICH THE NGO COMMITTEE HAD CONDUCTED ITS WORK AND ASSERTED THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD NOT PROPERLY CARRIED OUT THE MANDATE FOR THE REVIEW AS CONTAINED IN ECOSOC RESOLUTIONS 227 AND 278. THE DELEGATE OF CHINA REPEATED ITS TRADITIONAL STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT NGOS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY SEVER ALL TIES WITH THE "CHIANG CLIQUE" AND THOSE THAT DO NOT SHOULD BE EXPELLED. CHINA SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE VOTE ON
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THE DECISION PROPOSED FOR ADOPTION BY ECOSOC. THE USSR ATTEMPTED TO CAPITALIZE ON THE MISLEADING REMARKS MADE BY THE DELEGATE OF ARGENTINA AND SUGGESTED THAT THERE WERE CERTAIN PROBLEMS IN THE REPORT WHICH NEEDED CAREFUL ANALYSIS BY THE COUNCIL. AT THE WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION, 4/12, THE USSR MADE A FORMAL STATEMENT SIMILAR TO THE STATEMENT MADE AT THE JANUARY SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

COMMENTING ON THE CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTION OF NGOS BUT REITERATING THE ARGUMENT THAT NGOS SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUPPORT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE UN. THE SOVIET DELEGATE NOTED THAT CRITICAL COMMENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AND ALSO QUESTIONED THE CURRENT COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT DOES NOT REFLECT EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION. THE USSR MADE NO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE REPORT. STATEMENTS FAVORABLE TO THE WORK OF NGOS WERE MADE BY FRANCE, SWEDEN, US, VENEZUELA, UK, NEW ZEALAND, CANADA, GHANA, AND TANZANIA AND MOST DELEGATIONS URGED ADOPTION OF THE REPORT BY CONSENSUS.

3. FOLLOWING A SHORT PERIOD OF FRUITLESS ATTEMPTS BY THE DELEGATE OF ARGENTINA TO MAKE IRRELEVANT AMENDMENTS TO THE TEXT, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED THE DECISION IN DOCUMENT E/1978/13 BY CONSENSUS AND ALSO DECIDED TO TAKE NOTE OF THE REPORT.

4. THE NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, WILL BE INTRODUCED WEDNESDAY, 4/12, AND IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED APRIL 14. THE SECOND WEEK, 17-21 APRIL, WILL BE DEVOTED TO AGENDA ITEM 13 (NARCOTICS) AND AGENDA ITEM 11 (HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS). THE THIRD WEEK, 24-28 APRIL, WILL BE DEVOTED TO THE CONCLUSION OF AGENDA ITEM 11 AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGENDA ITEM 9, DECADE FOR WOMEN.

5. COPIES OF US STATEMENT ON THE REPORT OF THE NGO COMMITTEE BEING POUCHED SCHWARTZ, IO/IEP.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

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